Educational Programs

Curriculum- based educational programs, tied to local and national standards, extend classroom lessons into the natural and historic settings of Rock Creek Park. Programs address history, culture, technology, ecology and the environment.

Pre- and post lesson activities and resources for each educational program are available on the internet at: www.nps.gov/pimi/forteachers/ index.htm

How to Schedule a Program:

- Contact Park staff at 202-895-6070, Wednesday-Sunday from 9 am-5 pm.
- Cost: free.
- Schedule at least 2 weeks in advance.
- Size limit: 30 students (5-7 chaperones).
- Programs held in all weather, students should wear appropriate outdoor clothing.
- No indoor eating facilities, but uncovered outdoor picnic areas (limited tables) are available nearby.
- Restroom available.
- Easy- to- read student name- tags make a park program more personal.

Nearby Trails

- The *Melvin Hazen Trail* begins near Picnic Grove #1 and runs west over Connecticut Avenue. Round- trip to Connecticut Avenue and back is approximately one mile.
- The Western Ridge Trail (green blazes).
- The Valley Trail (blue blazes).

Both of these trails run six miles north to south through the Park, on opposite sides of Rock Creek. Numerous cross trails between them enable short or long hikes on either trail, or circuit hikes using the two.

- From Peirce Barn, the *bike trail* runs north ¼ mile to the Beach Drive/Broad Branch intersection and south 5 miles to the Lincoln Memorial.

Peirce Mill

Peirce Mill is an historic grist mil may be opened by reservation Wednesday-Sunday for scheduled groups. Call 202-895-6070 for more information.

Peirce Barn and Museum

Next door to Peirce Mill, Peirce Barn serves as a museum and visitor contact station for Rock Creek Park. It is located at 2401 Tilden St. NW, near Beach Drive. Call 202-895-6070 for hours of operation.

The museum includes several exhibit and activity areas:

- A children's activity table
- A hands- on grain grinding area
- Period clothing dress up area
- "The Mills of Rock Creek Valley" exhibit, covers the history of milling from the founding of the American Republic to the present.

A small bookshop sells inexpensive items including postcards, maps, and nature-related books and activities.

- "The Peirce Estate" exhibit, traces the story of the land and its people from the original 1794 Peirce Estate to its present use as part of Rock Creek Park.

National Park Service U.S. Department of Interior

Rock Creek Park Washington, DC



Peirce Mill Curriculum Based Education Programs



History, Culture, and Technology Education Programs

Peirce Mill and Peirce Barn Tilden Street and Beach Drive, NW Washington, DC

Phone: 202-895-6070

Fax: 202-895-6230

Directions

Peirce Mill and Peirce Barn are located in Washington, DC at 2401 Tilden St. N.W (at the corner of Tilden Street and Beach Drive).

By Auto

Beach Drive is closed to bus traffic. Buses must access the mill via Tilden Street or Park Road.

Heading north on Connecticut Avenue towards the DC/MD border, turn right onto Tilden Street. (Going south, turn left on Tilden.) The barn and mill are at the bottom of the hill on the left.

Or, heading north on 16th Street, turn left onto Park Road. Park Road becomes Tilden Street at Beach Drive. Go through the traffic light, cross the bridge over the creek, and the barn and mill are on the right.

Parking is available.

By Metro

Take the Red Line to the Cleveland Park or Van Ness stop.

From Cleveland Park, walk north on Connecticut Avenue, and hike to the right (east) down the Melvin Hazen Trail to Peirce Mill.

From Van Ness, walk south to Connecticut Avenue and turn left (east) on Tilden Street. Walk down the hill to Peirce Mill.

HISTORY, CULTURE and TECHNOLOGY

Grades preK-2:

A Mill or a Grocery Store? From spaghetti to cookies to chicken, students will be amazed by how much of their food depends on milling. (I hour)

Key concepts: food, business, production vs. consumption, natural resources, interdependence.

Cornucopia- From the Farm to Your Fingers Corn comes to life in this interactive program about milling. Students will de- shell and grind corn by hand and learn how the mill worked. (I hour)

Key concepts: food, natural resources, production vs. consumption, business, motion, simple machines.



Grades 1-4:

Once upon a Time: Life at Peirce Mill Estate Students will compare and contrast life in mid - 19th century rural Washington with that of present day DC. Older students will read maps and track the DC area's urbanization and change. (1 hour)

Key concepts: life, food, physical surroundings, business, resources, rural verses urban, development, energy, simple machines, slavery.

Grades 4-5:

Powered by Water and Gravity: the Workings of a Mill Students will marvel at how the machinery in Peirce Mill operated on waterpower and gravity as they take an in-depth look into the workings of this giant machine. (I hour)

Key concepts: energy, simple machines, water resources, location and growth, technological changes.

Milestones in Millstone Through a variety of activities, students will explore the technological progression from simple machines to complex automation and the social implications of this change in the past, present, and future.

(2 hours)

Key concepts: energy, simple machines, technological change, automation, social change, industrialization.

Grades 5-6:

Industrial Revolution Hits Home In 1820, Peirce Mill was state of the art and its |technology was an important part of America's

Industrial Revolution. Students will learn about major changes that took place between 1780 and 1860 and their influences on today. (I hour)

Key concepts: technological change, industrialization, urbanization.

